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Programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him

Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/71/L.25

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Request contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution A/71/L.25, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to appoint an eminent person to review the potential new information, including that which may be available from Member States, to assess its probative value, to determine the scope that any further inquiry or investigation should take, and, if possible, to draw conclusions from the investigations already conducted.

II. Relationship of the proposed request to the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

2. The requested activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/70/6 (Sect. 1).

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III. Activities by which the proposed request would be implemented

3. Pursuant to operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would appoint an eminent person to review the potential new information, to assess its probative value, and to recommend the way forward. The tasks of the eminent person are foreseen as follows:

(a) To review the report of the Commission of Jurists on the Inquiry into the Death of Dag Hammarskjöld (see A/68/800) and the information relied on by the Commission in its report, together with any relevant records and information that may be provided by Member States;

(b) To review the report of the Independent Panel of Experts concerning the investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him (see A/70/132) and the information relied on by the Independent Panel of Experts in its report, as well as the information subsequently obtained from Member States and individuals, as referred to in the note by the Secretary-General of 17 August 2016 (A/70/1017);

(c) If necessary and appropriate, to interview witnesses, including expert witnesses;

(d) To produce a report, to include:

(i) A summary of and any findings on new information obtained since the conclusion of the work of the Independent Panel of Experts;

(ii) An assessment of the probative value of that new information for the purpose of identifying the cause or causes of the incident and determining its attribution to any individual or entity;

(iii) As the eminent person may deem appropriate, new statements from witnesses who were interviewed and new information obtained, to be affixed as appendices;

(iv) A determination of the scope that any further inquiry or investigation should take, or, if the eminent person is of the opinion that a further inquiry or investigation may not be beneficial, to draw conclusions from the investigations already conducted.

IV. Financial implications of the proposals

4. Additional one-time resource requirements in the amount of $329,300 to cover the costs of: (a) general temporary assistance, including for an eminent person (Assistant Secretary-General) and a programme and reporting officer (P-4) for a period of six months each; (b) consultant to provide specialized expertise (forensics and document analysis); (c) travel costs; and (d) other operating expenses, under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017. The details of these additional resource requirements are set out in the table below.

(United States dollars)

	Total resource requirements for 2017
Section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	
General temporary assistance: 1 Assistant Secretary-General and 1 P-4 for six months each	233 800
Consultant	30 200
Travel of staff	57 200
Contractual services	3 500
General operating expenses	4 100
Supplies and materials	500
Total, section 1	**329 300**

V. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2016-2017

5. No provisions have been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the implementation of the activities requested under operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution. It is not possible to identify activities within the section concerned of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. It is therefore necessary that the additional resources in the amount of $329,300 be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2016-2017.

VI. Contingency fund

6. Under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget.

VII. Conclusion and action requested of the General Assembly

7. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/71/L.25, additional resource requirements in the amount of $329,300 for 2017, under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017. The amount of $329,300 would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2016-2017 to be approved by the General Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund. An amount of $29,400 would also be required under section 36, Staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.**

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Agenda items 134 and 20

Programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

New Urban Agenda

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/71/L.23

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Introduction

1. Draft resolution A/71/L.23, in which the General Assembly endorses the New Urban Agenda, responds to General Assembly resolution 67/216, in which the Assembly decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), as well as its resolutions 68/239, 69/226 and 70/210.

II. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of paragraphs 172 and 173 of the annex to draft resolution A/71/L.23, the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly during its seventy-first session an evidence-based and independent assessment of UN-Habitat. The result of the assessment will be a report containing recommendations to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and oversight of UN-Habitat, and in this regard it should analyse:

(i) The normative and operational mandate of UN-Habitat;

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(ii) The governance structure of UN-Habitat for more effective, accountable and transparent decision-making, considering alternatives, including universalization of the membership of its Governing Council;

(iii) The work of UN-Habitat with national, subnational and local governments and with relevant stakeholders in order to tap the full potential of partnerships;

(iv) The financial capability of UN-Habitat;

(b) Decide to hold a two-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, to be convened by the President of the General Assembly during the seventy-first session, to discuss the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the positioning of UN-Habitat in this regard. The meeting will discuss, inter alia, best practices, success stories and the measures contained in the report. A Chair's summary of the meeting will serve as an input to the Second Committee during seventy-second session for its consideration of the action to be taken in the light of the recommendations contained in the independent assessment, in its annual resolution under the relevant agenda item.

3. With regard to the resource implications of paragraphs 166 to 168 of the annex to draft resolution A/71/L.23, those would be elaborated upon in an oral statement of the Secretary-General to be issued, as appropriate, in respect of the relevant resolution of the Second Committee (A/C.2/71/L.59).

III. Relationship of the requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017 and to the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

4. The requested activities relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management; programme 12, Human settlements; and programme 25, Management and support services, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6/Rev.1). They also fall under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management (A/70/6 (Sect. 2) and Corr.1)); section 15, Human settlements (A/70/6 (Sect. 15)); and section 29D, Office of Central Support Services (A/70/6 (Sect. 29D)), of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

IV. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

5. Pursuant to paragraph 172 of the annex to the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would submit to the General Assembly an evidence-based and independent assessment of UN-Habitat. Accordingly, it is envisaged that the Secretary-General would appoint a high-level panel of experts to conduct the assessment.

6. The high-level panel would be composed of eight members with extensive knowledge of sustainable urban development, international development, and/or policymaking in an intergovernmental environment. The panel would be appointed by and would report to the Secretary-General. Panel members would be outside

independent experts who would serve on a pro bono basis, and would not be current or former United Nations staff members. Panel members would also be selected with due consideration to balanced geographical and gender representation.

7. The high-level panel would consist of the following four categories of members, with one expert each from a developed and a developing country:

(a) Two permanent representatives of missions to the United Nations in New York;

(b) Two former or currently serving urban development ministers, or ministers in a related field;

(c) Two former or currently serving mayors, representing local authorities' associations;

(d) Two academic or civil society leaders, representing stakeholders.

8. The Secretary-General would designate two co-chairs from among the panel members. The panel would be supported by two consultants who would record the panel's conclusions and recommendations and work with the high-level panel in drafting its final report, as well as facilitate its meetings and workshops. In addition, two support staff (General Service (Other level)) would provide administrative and logistical support.

9. In carrying out its mandate, the high-level panel is expected to hold consultations and workshops with the Governing Council of UN-Habitat and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, Member States, key partners in multilateral international organizations, associations of local authorities, and other relevant stakeholders.

10. Accordingly, it is envisaged that the high-level panel would meet on three occasions (twice in New York and once in Nairobi), and conduct two workshops (one in Nairobi and one as part of a visit to a UN-Habitat field project (location to be determined)) in the first half of 2017. The workshops would serve as an opportunity for the panel to organize focus groups on areas of interest to the panel and would consist of 18 participants, including members of the high-level panel and experts in relevant fields. The meetings of the panel in New York and its workshop in the field would last for 3 days each, while the panel's meeting and workshop in Nairobi would last for 4 days each.

11. The high-level panel would submit its final report to the Secretary-General by the end of June 2017. In line with paragraph 173 of the annex to the draft resolution, the report will be an input to the two-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, convened by the President of the General Assembly in the seventy-first session, to consider the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the positioning of UN-Habitat in this regard. In addition, a Chair's summary of the meeting will serve as an input to the Second Committee during the seventy-second session for its consideration of the action to be taken in the light of the recommendations contained in the independent assessment, in its annual resolution under the relevant agenda item.

12. Pursuant to paragraph 173 of the annex to the draft resolution, the proposed two-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly would use the meeting

entitlement of the General Assembly on the understanding that there will be no more than two meetings per day. Accordingly, there will be no additional meeting implications and the dates will need to be decided in consultation with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management.

13. Furthermore, the request for documentation contained in paragraphs 172 and 173 of the annex to the draft resolution would constitute an addition to the documentation workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one pre-session document (50,000 words) and one post-session document (8,500 words) in the six official languages in 2017.

V. Estimated resource requirements for the biennium 2016-2017

A. Conference-servicing requirements

14. To implement the requests contained in paragraphs 172 and 173 of the annex to the draft resolution, there would be additional conference-servicing requirements of $254,300 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017. The details of these additional non-recurrent requirements are provided in table 1.

Table 1
Additional conference-servicing requirements for the biennium 2016-2017
(United States dollars)

	2017	*Total*
Pre-session documentation	216 700	216 700
Post-session documentation	37 600	37 600
Total, section 2	**254 300**	**254 300**

B. Non-conference-servicing requirements

15. Pursuant to paragraph 172 of the annex to the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly an evidence-based and independent assessment of UN-Habitat. Accordingly, it is estimated that total additional non-conference-servicing requirements of $516,200 would be necessary, comprising an estimated amount of $500,300 under section 15, Human settlements, and $15,900 under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, as outlined below.

General temporary assistance

16. General temporary assistance resources in the estimated amount of $81,000 would be required for two General Service (Other level) staff to be located in New York for 6 months from 1 January to 30 June 2017 to support the high-level panel by providing, inter alia, general administrative support and support for the organization of the travel arrangements, meetings and workshops of the high-level panel.

Consultant fees and travel

17. It is estimated that resources in the amount of $141,500 would be required in order to pay for the services and travel of two consultants for 6 months each from 1 January to 30 June 2017 to assist the high-level panel in its work.

18. The consultants would oversee the compilation of evidence-based cases for the high-level panel, record the panel's conclusions and recommendations and work with the high-level panel to draft its final report. In addition, the consultants would be actively involved in the presentation and facilitation of the panel's meetings and workshops.

Ad hoc expert groups

19. In order to cover the airfare, daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses of the eight members of the high-level panel of experts for its meetings (two in New York and one in Nairobi), an estimated amount of $92,200 would be required.

20. It is estimated that to cover airfare, daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses for the panel members and 10 other participants to its workshop in Nairobi, a total amount of $70,200 would be required. To cover the same costs for the workshop as part the high-level panel's visit to a UN-Habitat field project, it is presently estimated that a total of $78,000 would be required for all 18 participants.

Contractual services

21. An estimated amount of $20,000 would be required to provide for the rental of venues for the high-level panel's meetings and workshops and for the printing of associated materials.

General operating expenses

22. Standard common services would be required over the duration of the assessment for the two General Service support staff supporting the high-level panel in New York. Accordingly, non-recurrent resources in the estimated amount of $15,900 would be required to provide for the rental of premises for the two General Service support staff in New York for 6 months, over the course of the assessment. The resources would be budgeted under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, of the programme budget for 2016-2017.

23. In addition, an estimated amount of $14,300 would be required for communications and miscellaneous services for the two support staff over the course of the assessment. The total estimated requirement for general operating expenses would therefore be $30,200.

Supplies and materials

24. An estimated amount of $1,000 would be required to provide for general stationery and office supplies for the two General Service support staff over the course of the assessment.

Furniture and equipment

25. An estimated requirement of $2,100 would be necessary to cover the acquisition of office automation equipment for the two General Service support staff over the course of the assessment.

26. Table 2 below summarizes the estimated resources required under section 15, Human settlements, and 29D, Office of Central Support Services, to implement the activities detailed in section IV above.

Table 2
Additional non-conference-servicing requirements for the biennium 2016-2017
(United States dollars)

	2017	*Total*
General temporary assistance (2 General Service (Other level) for 6 months)	81 000	81 000
Consultant fees and travel (2 consultants (Level C), for 6 months)	141 500	141 500
Travel of the high-level panel to meetings (2 in New York, 1 in Nairobi)	92 200	92 200
Field workshop: travel of 18 participants (high-level panel and stakeholders)	78 000	78 000
Nairobi workshop: travel of 18 participants (high-level panel and stakeholders)	70 200	70 200
Contractual services	20 000	20 000
General operating expenses	30 200	30 200
Supplies and materials	1 000	1 000
Furniture and equipment	2 100	2 100
Total	**516 200**	**516 200**

VI. Summary of resource implications

27. The additional requirements of the Secretary-General's proposal, amounting to $770,500 for 2017, are detailed by section of the programme budget in table 3 below.

Table 3
Additional resource requirements, by section of the programme budget
(United States dollars)

	2017	*Total*
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	254 300	254 300
Section 15, Human settlements	500 300	500 300
Section 29D, Office of Central Support Services	15 900	15 900
Total	**770 500**	**770 500**

VII. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2016-2017

28. It is not possible at this stage to identify activities under sections 2, 15 and 29D of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium in order to meet the additional requirements of $770,500. The adoption by the General Assembly of draft resolution A/71/L.23 would therefore entail additional requirements of $770,500 under the programme budget for the biennium.

VIII. Contingency fund

29. It will be recalled that, under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditure derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget.

IX. Conclusion and action required of the General Assembly

30. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/71/L.23, additional resource requirements in the amount of$770,500, for 2017, would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, including $254,300 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, $500,300 under section 15, Human settlements, and $15,900 under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services. The amount of $770,500 would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2016-2017 to be approved by the Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**

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Programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

Oceans and the law of the sea

Oceans and the law of the sea

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/71/L.26

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Introduction

1. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects met at United Nations Headquarters from 3 to 9 August 2016. Its report was submitted by the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in a letter dated 25 August 2016 addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/71/362), pursuant to paragraph 283 of Assembly resolution 70/235. Section III of the report sets out the agreed recommendations and programme of work for the period 2017-2020, which were submitted to the Assembly before the end of its seventieth session, pursuant to the same paragraph of resolution 70/235.

II. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 299, 305, 307, 311, 316, 317 and 349 of draft resolution A/71/L.26, the General Assembly would:

(a) Endorse the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its seventh meeting;

(b) Request the Bureau to continue to put into practice the decisions and guidance of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole during the intersessional

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period, including by providing oversight of the delivery of the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;

(c) Invite the Group of Experts and other relevant partners to begin working on the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process as soon as possible;

(d) Request the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to develop a mechanism to establish a Pool of Experts for the second cycle of the Regular Process, including by inviting individuals who served in the Pool of Experts during the first cycle of the Regular Process to indicate to the secretariat of the Regular Process whether they would be interested in serving in the Pool of Experts for the second cycle;

(e) Request the Secretary-General to secure the necessary resources, including the option of the regular budget of the Organization, for the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, as adopted by the seventh meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, in accordance with established procedures and within the respective purview of relevant bodies;

(f) Request the Secretary-General to convene, in 2017, two meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of no more than five days' total duration, one from 17 to 18 April 2017 to consider the Technical Abstracts in accordance with the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, and another from 6 to 8 September 2017;

(g) Recall the responsibilities and functions entrusted to the Secretary-General in the Convention and in the related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, note the increased number of requests to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea for additional outputs and servicing of meetings in resolution 69/292 and in relation to the support to be provided by the Division as secretariat of the Regular Process during the second cycle of the Regular Process, and to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization.

III. Relationship of the proposed requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017 and to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

3. The requested activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, programme 6, Legal affairs, and programme 25, Management and support services, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017 (see A/69/6/Rev.1), and section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, section 8, Legal affairs, and section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/70/6 (Sect. 2), A/70/6 (Sect. 8) and A/70/6 (Sect. 29D), respectively).

IV. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

4. In paragraph 210 of General Assembly resolution 65/37 A, the Secretary-General was requested to designate the Division to provide secretariat support to the Regular Process, including its established institutions.

5. At its seventh meeting, in August 2016, the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the Regular Process continued its consideration of lessons learned from the first cycle of the Regular Process, including consideration of a way forward towards implementation of the second cycle (see A/71/362). It also considered the preliminary indicative programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, presented by the Co-Chairs in consultation with the Bureau, and the information provided by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 285 of resolution 70/235 on preliminary resource requirements for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process.

6. As outlined in the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, the priority activities undertaken in 2017 are to be organized under two outputs, namely, (I) the second World Ocean Assessment(s) and (II) Regular Process support for other ocean-related intergovernmental processes, through the preparation of outputs tailored specifically to the requests and needs of the processes (technical abstracts). Outreach and awareness-raising and capacity-building are also to be pursued to support the outputs.

7. In relation to output I, preparations for the second World Ocean Assessment(s), it is necessary to establish working methods and the communications and collaborative document management systems; confirm the interest of individuals who served in the Pool of Experts of the first cycle (some 600 individuals) and identify and appoint additional experts to the Pool; establish national focal points; enhance the process to appoint and constitute the Pool of Experts; develop a database of members of the Pool of Experts; develop a database of recent and ongoing global and regional assessments; hold regional workshops to build capacity, support the development of assessment(s) and facilitate outreach and awareness-raising; constitute writing teams and develop guidelines; scope and prepare draft outline(s) of assessment(s); review and submit these outline(s) for approval by Member States; hold in-person and web-based meetings of writing teams and of the Group of Experts; subscribe to scientific publications and databases; create an electronic record of trends; prepare draft assessment(s); edit and review draft assessment(s), including peer review and review by States; and finalize assessment(s) for digital and print publication and translate and disseminate the assessment(s). In 2017, activities under output I would entail the organization of five regional workshops to support the scoping of the assessments, and would require the travel of participants, staff members and experts to those workshops. Subscriptions to scientific publications and databases would also need to be purchased. Resources for the continuation of some of those activities and additional activities for the preparation of output I would be required in the biennium 2018-2019 and in 2020.

8. In relation to output II, the production of technical abstracts, it is necessary to establish working methods and a collaborative document management system; prepare outlines of the technical abstracts; review and submit the outlines for

approval by States; prepare draft technical abstracts, including an editing and review process, among other things, to ensure the securing of copyright and conformity with United Nations standards, including to determine the need for and/or respond to requests for disclaimers; consider and finalize the technical abstracts; translate the technical abstracts for digital and print publication; and disseminate them, including at oceans-related meetings. The activities under output II would entail primarily the engagement of consultant services to format and edit the technical abstracts, contractual services for the translation and printing of the technical abstracts and travel expenses for experts from developing States to attend meetings of the Group of Experts.

9. In relation to outreach and awareness-raising, it is necessary to develop and maintain a Regular Process web portal and online databases; hold briefings and side events, including for the launching of the outputs; develop and distribute promotional print and audiovisual materials; and participate in intergovernmental meetings to promote the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment, provide updates on the second cycle of the Regular Process and its products and establish areas of cooperation in the development and implementation of the second cycle. In 2017, outreach and awareness-raising activities would require consultancy services for the development of a web portal, audiovisual services for briefings and side events and the travel of staff to participate in intergovernmental and inter-agency meetings. Resources for these activities would also be required in the biennium 2018-2019 and in 2020.

10. In relation to capacity-building, it is necessary to compile and maintain a capacity-building inventory; hold and follow up on regional workshops, which will play a central role in raising the awareness of stakeholders to the Regular Process, identify and collect data, identify and scope regional priorities to be considered during the second cycle, engage in the wider dissemination of the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment and foster wider geographical representation in the appointment of experts to the Pool of Experts; hold a multi-stakeholder dialogue (case studies of good practices) and a capacity-building partnership event; and fundraise for the Regular Process special scholarship trust fund and the implementation of the special scholarship. In 2017, this would entail the organization of a capacity-building partnership event in New York, which would require audiovisual services, the engagement of a consultant to build the online capacity-building inventory, and the travel of experts to the event. Resources for many of these activities would also be required in the biennium 2018-2019 and in 2020.

11. In order to successfully implement the mandates set out in draft resolution A/71/L.26 and achieve the outputs described above during the biennium 2016-2017, the secretariat would be required to perform, among other things, the following functions, as specified in the programme of work for the period 2017-2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, as well as conference services for the translation of the reports:

(a) Carry out secretariat functions for the Regular Process, including administrative services;

(b) Provide assistance to delegations and support to the Bureau, the Co-Chairs, the Group of Experts, including the Joint Coordinators, and the Pool of Experts;

(c) Service meetings of the relevant institutions that support the Regular Process:

(i) The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, which, pursuant to paragraph 317 of draft resolution A/71/L.26, will hold two meetings in 2017, for a total of five days: one from 17 to 18 April 2017 and the other from 6 to 8 September 2017. The Joint Coordinators of the Group of Experts would attend the meetings of the Working Group;

(ii) The Bureau of the Working Group, which will meet throughout the second cycle and, on average, once a month;

(iii) The Group of Experts, which will hold periodic in-person meetings (tentatively, one in 2017, two each in 2018 and 2019 and one in 2020) and regular web-based meetings;

(d) Hold inter-agency cooperation and coordination meetings, both in person and web-based as practicable, to secure firm commitments and inputs, facilitate such cooperation and coordination, raise awareness of the Regular Process and its outputs and facilitate capacity-building, data collection and nominations for the Pool of Experts through the network of partner agencies;

(e) Prepare documents, including background materials, summaries of issues and views of delegations, meeting reports and notes;

(f) Conduct the substantive review of the technical abstracts, formatting, typesetting and copy-editing and the provision of other support to finalize these abstracts;

(g) Provide support to the Group of Experts for a scoping exercise for the Output I assessment(s);

(h) Provide support for the establishment of, and liaison with, national focal points;

(i) Provide support for the process of the appointment and constitution of the Pool of Experts, including a review of the process;

(j) Provide the organization and substantive servicing of and follow-up to regional workshops;

(k) Provide support for the drafting of the assessment(s) through:

(i) Compilation of recent and ongoing assessments;

(ii) Facilitation of communications, including through the establishment of communications and collaborative document management systems;

(iii) Provision of substantive guidance and review, as required;

(iv) Preparation of an index;

(l) Edit, format and publish the assessment(s);

(m) Develop a communications strategy;

(n) Establish partnerships with relevant stakeholders;

(o) Conduct awareness-raising campaigns and outreach activities, including within intergovernmental meetings;

(p) Compile and maintain a capacity-building inventory of needs and opportunities;

(q) Develop and maintain a Regular Process web portal and databases on available assessments and capacity-building inventory;

(r) Provide briefings, organize side events and develop promotional materials;

(s) Prepare summaries of views of meeting participants for the Working Group, its Bureau and Co-Chairs, the Group of Experts and the Pool of Experts;

(t) Raise awareness of and provide technical support to the Regular Process;

(u) Administer the Regular Process trust fund, including fundraising, donor engagement, the management of contributions, reporting, the disbursement of funds and travel management.

V. Financial implications of the proposals

12. The total estimated costs for the bienniums 2016-2017, 2018-2019 and 2020-2021 would amount to $4,392,200 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, under section 8, Legal affairs, and under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services. As detailed in the table below, the adoption of draft resolution A/71/L.26 would give rise to additional requirements, including the following:

(a) Pursuant to the request contained in operative paragraph 317, the request for meetings services for the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole would be provided on an "if available" basis. With regard to the request for documentation services, this would constitute an addition to the documentation workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one post-session document (22,500 words) in 2017 and one post-session document (375,000 words) in 2020, to be issued in all six official languages;

(b) Two new temporary posts, one Programme Officer (P-3) and one Programme Assistant (General Service (Other Level)), would be required to strengthen the capacity of the Division, including the provision of assistance to support the efficient and effective secretariat services provided by the Division to the Regular Process, including its established institutions;

(c) To carry out the mandated activities, operational resources, such as consultants, travel of staff and meeting participants, contractual services and general operating costs, relating to the achievement of output I, output II, outreach and capacity-building would be required under the programme budgets for the bienniums 2016-2017, 2018-2019 and 2020-2021.

Additional resource requirements by section of the programme budget

(United States dollars)

	Total resource requirements	*Resource requirements for 2017*	*Resource requirements for 2018-2019*	*Resource requirements for 2020*
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	1 717 600	97 900	–	1 619 700
Section 8, Legal affairs				
Temporary posts: one Programme Officer (P-3) and one Programme Assistant, General Service (Other Level)	812 500	124 600	458 600	229 300
Consultants	98 900	47 800	15 700	35 400
Travel of staff	161 700	54 300	83 600	23 800
Travel of meeting participants	1 276 000	280 000	841 000	155 000
Contractual services	104 700	31 300	23 600	49 800
General operating costs	15 700	5 500	7 700	2 500
Supplies and materials	6 900	3 900	2 000	1 000
Subtotal, section 8	**2 476 400**	**547 400**	**1 432 200**	**496 800**
Section 29D, Office of Central Support Services	198 200	102 800	63 600	31 800
Total	**4 392 200**	**748 100**	**1 495 800**	**2 148 300**

VI. Potential for absorption

13. No provision has been made under the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 to implement the requests of the General Assembly as referred to in operative paragraphs 305, 307, 311, 316, 317 and 349 of draft resolution A/71/L.26. It is estimated that these activities would result in a significant increase in the workload of the Division in carrying out the activities of the secretariat of the Regular Process during the second cycle.

14. The activities to be undertaken under each of the outputs during the biennium 2016-2017 form interlinked steps of the processes necessary to achieve the outputs. Accordingly, it is not possible to identify activities within the relevant sections of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium.

15. It is therefore necessary that additional resource requirements in the amount of $748,100 for 2017 be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2016-2017. The remaining resource requirements of $1,495,800 for 2018-2019 and $2,148,300 for 2020 would be included in the proposed programme budget for the bienniums 2018-2019 and 2020-2021, respectively.

VII. Contingency fund

16. Under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget.

VIII. Conclusion and action required of the General Assembly

17. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/71/L.26, additional resource requirements in the amount of $748,100 for 2017, comprising $97,900 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, $547,400 under section 8, Legal affairs, and $102,800 under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017. The amount of $748,100 would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2016-2017 to be approved by the Assembly and, accordingly, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**

18. **The General Assembly is also requested to approve the establishment of two temporary posts (one P-3 and one General Service (Other Level)) under section 8, Legal affairs.**

19. **Furthermore, an amount of $18,500 would also be required under section 36, Staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.**

20. **Additional resource requirements for the bienniums 2018-2019 and 2020-2021 would be included in the proposed programme budgets for the respective bienniums.**

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Programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

Contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates follows the guidelines for the contingency fund contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 42/211.

2. Potential new charges, which amount to $43,307,200, are detailed in the annex to the present report and exceed the remaining balance of $17,619,900 in the contingency fund by $25,687,300. The potential charges indicated in respect of each item correspond to those recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions upon its consideration of individual statements and proposals for revised estimates.

3. In the formulation of the proposals, due consideration has been given to the procedures contained in paragraph 9 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213, and in part C, paragraph 6, of the annex to resolution 42/211, which govern the contingency fund.

4. The Secretary-General has proposed the absorption of additional expenses due to new and expanded mandates. In the current biennium, an amount of $34,500 was identified for absorption in the context of the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2016 session (see A/71/401). During the course of the review of the financial implications of the adoption of various draft resolutions by the Main Committees of the General Assembly, a further amount of $278,600 was identified for absorption within the approved resources for the biennium 2016-2017. However, the magnitude of additional requirements resulting from new and expanded mandates does not allow for full absorption.

5. It will be recalled that during its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, the Committee for Programme and

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Coordination questioned the usefulness of designating high or low priorities at the level of output or activity and recommended that the practice be discontinued (see A/48/16, Part Two, para. 40). The General Assembly subsequently endorsed the recommendation of the Committee in its resolution 48/228, thus removing the identification of high- and low-priority programme elements from the format of the programme budget. As the present format of the budget no longer contains priority-setting information approved by Member States, alternative options for the reallocation or reduction of resources between high- and low-priority mandated programme elements, including the deferral, termination and curtailment of mandated activities, would require Assembly approval.

6. Total potential charges of $43.3 million, as reflected in the table below, are based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions available at the time of the finalization of the present report and do not take into account the forthcoming recommendations of the Advisory Committee relating to (a) the revised estimates of the Human Rights Council, (b) the programme budget implications of the New Urban Agenda and (c) the programme budget implications of the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects.

Breakdown of potential charges to the contingency fund, by budget section

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Section		*Potential charges to the contingency fund*[a]
1.	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	1 759.1
2.	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	5 097.2
8.	Legal affairs	547.4
9.	Economic and social affairs	16 380.3
12.	Trade and development	211.6
15.	Human settlements	500.3
19.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	994.2
21.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	130.0
22.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	1 893.6
24.	Human rights	12 359.9
28.	Public information	8.4
29A.	Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management	2 154.8
29D.	Office of Central Support Services	1 009.3
29F.	Administration, Geneva	60.9
33.	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	200.2
	Total	**43 307.2**

[a] Net of staff assessment and at 2016-2017 initial appropriation rates.

7. On the basis of the above discussion and subject to further review by the General Assembly of the proposals of the Secretary-General and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Assembly is requested to consider the potential charges related to new and expanded mandates against the contingency fund as outlined above.

Annex

Contingency fund-related proposals and charges

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Remaining balance in the contingency fund pursuant to General Assembly resolution 70/248	24 007.1
Less charges approved at the resumed seventieth session of the General Assembly	(6 387.2)
Available balance	**17 619.9**

Potential charges	*Secretary-General's proposal*	*Identified for absorption*	*Recommendations of the Advisory Committee*	*Recommendations of the Fifth Committee*[a]	*Potential charges to the contingency fund*
Findings and recommendations of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel on the system of administration of justice at the United Nations, and revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/71/163)	2 502.8	–	(1 038.2)		1 464.6
Proposed United Nations Secretariat contribution to the United Nations Development Group cost-sharing arrangement for the resident coordinator system (A/70/703)	13 321.6	–	(6 785.9)		6 535.7
Proposal for the seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific premises in Bangkok (A/71/333 and Corr.1)	877.4	–	(171.6)		705.8
Revised estimates resulting from the decisions contained in General Assembly resolution 70/290, entitled "High-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants" (A/71/345)	305.0	–	(305.0)		–
Global service delivery model for the United Nations Secretariat (A/71/417)[b]	256.3	–	(112.4)		143.9
Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2016 session (A/71/401)	2 872.2	34.5	–		2 872.2
Addendum to the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2017 session during 2016 (A/71/401/Add.1)	556.0	–	–		556.0
Eighth progress report on the enterprise resource planning project (A/71/390)	4 021.8	–	(2 010.9)		2 010.9
Supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (A/71/534)	23 889.6	–	(12 608.5)		11 281.1
Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-third sessions and twenty-fourth special session (A/71/623)	14 910.5	–	–		14 910.5

Potential charges	*Secretary-General's proposal*	*Identified for absorption*	*Recommendations of the Advisory Committee*	*Recommendations of the Fifth Committee*[a]	*Potential charges to the contingency fund*
Programme budget implications: treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices (A/C.5/71/13)	295.9	–	(6.9)		289.0
Programme budget implications: taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations (A/C.5/71/12)	692.6	–	–		692.6
Programme budget implications: investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him (A/C.5/71/14)[b]	329.3	–	(3.0)		326.3
Programme budget implications: New Urban Agenda (A/C.5/71/15)[c]	770.5	–	–		770.5
Programme budget implications: oceans and the law of the sea (A/C.5/71/16)[c]	748.1	–	–		748.1
Total[d]	**66 349.6**		**(23 042.4)**	**–**	**43 307.2**
Shortfall					**(25 687.3)**

[a] To be determined.
[b] The related adjustments by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions are based on the advance versions of reports.
[c] Recommendations of the Advisory Committee to be determined.
[d] Net of staff assessment and at initial appropriation rates for 2016-2017.